

1318.3 - Qld Stats, Apr 2009

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Summary

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Criminal Courts in Queensland, 2007-08

(Feature Article)

Includes: Higher Courts, Magistrates' Courts and Children's Courts



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Labour Force

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Includes: State final demand

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WHAT'S NEW AT ABS ...

WHAT'S NEW

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SCHOOLS, AUSTRALIA, 2008

Schools, Australia 2008 (cat. no. 4221.0) was released 17 March 2009. This publication contains statistics on school, students and teaching staff involved in the provision or administration of primary and secondary education, in government and non-government schools for all Australian states and territories. Also included are derived measures of student participation, continuation, progression (new in 2008) and retention, and ratios of students to teachers. Many of the statistical tables include selected time series.

Selected results for Queensland include:

- In 2008, there were 1,713 schools in Queensland employing 57,509 teaching staff and catering for 712,434 students.
- The number of government schools in Queensland has decreased 4.1% from 1,307 in 1998 to 1,250 in 2008. Over the same period, non-government schools have increased 11% from 419 to 463.
- In 2008 there were 479,850 full-time government students in Queensland (an increase of 14% from 1998) and 226,612 full-time non-government students (an increase of 39% from 1998).
- Between 1998 and 2008 the total number of primary teacher full-time equivalents increased 34% to 27,086. Secondary teacher full-time equivalents increased 26% over the same period to 21,879. The proportion of male teacher full-time equivalents has steadily declined between 1998 and 2008, from 24% to 20% for primary teachers and from 46% to 42% for secondary teachers.

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CAUSES OF DEATH, AUSTRALIA, 2007

Causes of Death, Australia, 2007 (cat. no. 3303.0) was released 18 March 2009. This publication presents statistics on the number of deaths, for year of registration by state or territory of Australia, sex, selected age groups, and causes of death classified to the World Health Organisation's International Classification of Diseases (ICD) Version 10. Causes of death is presented in the publication in a number of different ways including: by underlying cause, leading causes and multiple causes.

In prior years, statistics on perinatal deaths have been included in this publication, however, from the 2007 reference year this data will be published in *Perinatal Deaths, Australia* (cat. no. 3304.0)

Selected results for Queensland include:

- There were 25,801 deaths of Queenslanders in 2007. Diseases of the circulatory system (cardiovascular disease) accounted for one third (33%) of all deaths and cancer accounted for a further 27%.
- There were 1,553 deaths due to external causes (accidents, poisoning and violence). Suicide accounted for 18% of these deaths and transport accidents contributed a further 16%.
- Between 1998 and 2007 the number of Queenslanders dying from dementia and alzheimer's disease has more than doubled (from 497 deaths in 1998 to 1,263 deaths in 2007).

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AUSTRALIAN SOCIAL TRENDS, MARCH 2009

Australian Social Trends, March 2009 (cat. no. 4102.0) was released 25 March 2009 and is the first of four issues for 2009. This publication is now available quarterly after being issued annually from 1994 to 2008.

The March 2009 issue features articles about Australia's ageing population, including future population trends, retirement and superannuation. There are eight articles in all, covering these and a range of other topics such as marriage and partnering, mental health and renewable energy.

Selected results for Queensland include:

- In 2007, there were 2,089,000 males and 2,093,00 females in Queensland and the population grew by 90,500 people.
- In 2007, 91% of children aged 12-15 months and 88% of children aged 72-75 months were fully immunised.
- Private health insurance was held by 41% of Queenslanders.
- The unemployment rate in 2007 was 4.0%, the lowest rate during a steady decline from 9.2% in 1997.
- Trade union membership in Queensland has declined from 31% in 1997 to 18% in 2007.
- Real household final consumption expenditure per person rose from \$18,900 in 1997 to \$25,700 in 2007.
- In 2007, 74% of households had a computer and 65% had Internet access and of those with Internet access, 68% had broadband.

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ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER HOME OWNERSHIP: A SNAPSHOT, 2006

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Home Ownership: A snapshot, 2006 (cat. no. 4722.0.55.005) was released 25 March 2009. This publication provides information about rates of home ownership for Indigenous and other Australian households, and about the characteristics of Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians according to selected tenure types.

Selected results for Queensland from the 2006 Census:

- The proportion of Indigenous households who lived in owner occupied dwellings was 33% compared with 68% of other households.
- A significant proportion of Indigenous households lived in rented accommodation (64%).

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A NEW LOOK AT OUR SOCIETY WITH: A PICTURE OF THE NATION: THE STATISTICIAN'S REPORT ON THE 2006 CENSUS

A Picture of the Nation: the Statistician's Report on the 2006 Census (cat. no. 2070.0), a

recently released publication of the ABS, taps into a rich vein of data collected in the 2006 Census. This report looks at Australia in an exciting new way providing a detailed insight into our nation's people and culture.

Not just your standard statistical publication, A Picture of the Nation analyses the latest Census data and identifies emerging differences and similarities between the five age-based generation groups of: Oldest (aged 80+), Lucky (60 to 79), Baby Boomers (40 to 59), Gen X and Y (20 to 39) and the iGeneration (0 to 19).

A Picture of the Nation shows that the proportion of people stating 'no religion' is higher for each successive generation, while women have closed the gap in university qualifications with more women than men in Generation X and Y attaining a Bachelor Degree or higher (28% compared with 21%).

While the report looks at generational trends, it also provides a detailed analysis of other population groups such as working mothers, migrants, empty nesters, people with a need for assistance and many more...

A Picture of the Nation also backs up something that is becoming increasingly obvious in our society which is the continual increase in the number of young adults (aged 20-29) staying at home and living with their parents, which has jumped from 24% in 1986 to 31% in 2006. The report details that this trend is associated with young people's increasing participation in education, and the delay of partnering and parenthood.

While a larger proportion of people in their early 20s lived with parents than people in their late 20s, this latter group increased at a faster rate. In 1986, 37% of 20-24 year olds were living with at least one parent, compared with 44% in 2006. Among 25-29 year olds, 11% lived with their parents in 1986 but this increased rapidly to 17% in 2006.

For a unique look into contemporary Australian society you can't go past A Picture of the Nation, an invaluable statistical reference.

To purchase your copy of A Picture of the Nation for \$25.00, phone 1300 135 070, alternatively you may download chapters free from the ABS website using this link [A Picture of the Nation](#).

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EDUCATION NEWS, MARCH 2009

Education News, March 2009 (cat. no. 1330.0) was released 26 March 2009. This newsletter highlights the latest curriculum related teaching resources, student activities and statistical tools that have been developed by ABS Education Services as well as other ABS resources that are useful for schools.

Topics discussed in this latest edition include:

- CensusAtSchool news
- Interactive age-sex population pyramids
- CensusAtSchool for the time-poor teacher
- Free teacher professional development days
- New geography classroom activities
- The Statistician's Report, analysing the 2006 Census of Population and Housing.



MIGRANT STATISTICS NEWS

Migrant Statistics News, Apr 2009 (cat no. 3413.0) was released 7 April 2009. This edition of the newsletter includes information on important changes to the Migration, Australia (cat. no. 3412.0) publication as well as a range of other news which are sure to be of interest.

Topics include:

- The release of the second edition of Migrant Data Matrices, which incorporates all data cubes from the first edition as well as new information on births and marriages, plus data from the 2006 Census, 2007 Education and Work Survey and other recent collections.
- Video Help is on its way - Keep an eye out for a soon to be released new video which will assist you in navigating through the Migrant Data Matrices.
- The upcoming release of the next edition of Perspectives on Migrants which will specifically focus on visa categories. Four articles will present information on migrant flows and characteristics by visa type.
- The Statistician's Report on the 2006 Census looks at trends that have emerged within life-cycle groups (including migrants) as well as a detailed look at generational trends.
- The new ABS/Universities Australia agreement for 2009-2011 which now permits some commercial use of materials based on CURFs or from use of Census Table Builder.

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CULTURE AND RECREATION NEWS, 2009

Culture and Recreation News, 2009 (cat. no. 4147.4.55.001) was released 18 March 2009. Culture and Recreation News is the half-yearly newsletter of the National Centre for Culture and Recreation Statistics (NCCRS). The newsletter highlights developments in arts and cultural heritage, and sports and recreation statistics, and provides relevant information for researchers, policy makers, service providers and others with an interest in this field.

Topics covered include:

- What is Sport?
- Detailed guidelines for cultural heritage organisations on how to collect and report on 18 key industry measures.
- Perspectives on Sport which includes articles on volunteers in sport and constraints and motivators in sport and physical recreation.
- The Sports compendium which provides a statistical overview of sports and physical recreation in Australia.

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METHODOLOGICAL NEWS, MARCH 2009

Methodological News, Mar 2009 (cat. no. 1504.0) was released 26 March 2009. This is a quarterly information bulletin featuring articles on developments in this area. Topics discussed

include: development of measures of social capital across individuals and communities; new benchmarks for stratification of business size; updates on the ABS quality framework and use of quality declarations written specifically for web-based dissemination and research on methods of detection of anomalous results for macroediting.

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INFORMATION PAPER: REVIEW OF INTERSTATE MIGRATION METHOD, MARCH 2009

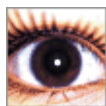
Information Paper: Review of Interstate Migration Method, March 2009 (cat. no. 3106.0.55.001) was released 18 March 2009. Within Australia there is no direct quarterly measure of interstate migration. Quarterly estimates of interstate migration are modelled using Medicare change of address data. This model is reviewed and updated every five years using data from the latest Census of Population and Housing.

Changes to the model, including updated expansion factors, have been applied to interstate migration estimates for September quarter 2006 and onwards. The method described in this paper will be used for the intercensal period 2006 to 2011 and onwards until once again it is reviewed after data from the 2011 Census of Population and Housing has been finalised.

This new model includes updated expansion factors based on data from the 2006 Census and additional Medicare data used to help measure multiple movers (i.e. persons who have moved more than once during the year prior to the 2006 Census). Expansion factors are used to account for an under coverage of Medicare change of address data by various ages and sex. The new model includes the following characteristics:

- Medicare data lagged by three months (both for calculating expansion factors and for estimating progressive quarters of interstate migration);
- smoothed inputs used to produce expansion factors (i.e. Census, Medicare & multiple movers data were smoothed);
- capping applied to expansion factors (in contrast to the 2001-2006 method); and
- expansion factors applied to males aged 17 to 30 years and females aged 17 to 25 years (this differs to the age range used in both the 1996-2001 and 2001-2006 methods).

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RESEARCH PAPER: EXPLORING MEASURES OF LOW SOCIAL CAPITAL, MARCH 2009

Research Paper: Exploring Measures of Low Social Capital, March 2009 (cat. no. 1351.0.55.024) was released 25 March 2009. Developing measures of social capital across individuals and communities has attracted a large amount of attention and policy interest. Social capital theory attempts to deal with relationships: relationships within and between groups of people, and across society.

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RESEARCH PAPER: REVIEWING THE ABS' HEDONIC REGRESSION MODEL FOR DESKTOP COMPUTERS (METHODOLOGY ADVISORY COMMITTEE) NOVEMBER 2008

Research Paper: Reviewing the ABS' Hedonic Regression Model for Desktop Computers (Methodology Advisory Committee), November 2008 (cat. no. 1352.0.55.099) was released 25 March 2009. Price indexes for products undergoing rapid quality change such as computers, whitegoods and cars are best determined using hedonic price regression models, provided suitable source data are available. This publication discusses the hedonic price regression model currently used by the ABS to determine price indexes for computers. In 2008, a review of a part of the method used to construct the index was undertaken, to ensure that the index remains relevant, given the fast evolving nature of computer technology.

This paper first details the review of the desktop computer price index, and then discusses how the recommendations arising from the review could be extended to provide a framework for the construction of price indexes for other consumer durables.

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DISCUSSION PAPER: PROPOSED STANDARD ECONOMIC SECTOR CLASSIFICATIONS OF AUSTRALIA (SESCA), 2008

Discussion Paper: Proposed Standard Economic Sector Classifications of Australia (SESCA), 2008 (cat. no. 1218.0.55.001) was released 26 March 2009. This discussion paper outlines the proposed revisions to the Standard Economic Sector Classifications of Australia (SESCA) (cat. no. 1218.0) which will replace the 2002 version of the same publication. SESCOA will be published as the Australian Standard in June 2009. Users are invited to comment on this discussion paper by 1 May 2009.

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PERSONS NOT IN THE LABOUR FORCE, AUSTRALIA, SEPTEMBER 2008

Persons Not in the Labour Force, Australia, September 2008 (cat. no. 6220.0) was released 27 March 2009. This publication presents information about people aged 15 years and over who are not in the labour force: that is, neither employed nor unemployed. The data measure the potential supply of labour not reflected in employment and unemployment statistics, and measure the characteristics of that potential supply.

Selected results for Queensland include:

- In September 2008, there were just over 1.0 million people aged 15 years and over who were not in the labour force.
- The main reasons for not being in the labour force were home duties or caring for children (31%), retired or voluntarily inactive (29%), own long term health condition or disability and attending an educational institution each with 13%.

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MICRODATA: EMPLOYEE EARNINGS AND HOURS, EXPANDED CURF, AUSTRALIA, MAY 2006

Microdata: Employee Earnings and Hours, Expanded CURE, Australia, May 2006 (cat no.

6306.0.55.001) was released 31 March 2009. This Expanded Confidentialised Unit Record File (CURF) provides information from the May 2006 Survey of Employee Earnings and Hours.

The survey is designed to provide statistics on the composition and distribution of earnings and hours of employees and whether their pay is set by award, collective agreement or individual agreement. Distribution and composition of average weekly earnings and hours of employees is classified by sex, adult/junior, full-time/part-time, managerial/non-managerial, State/Territory, sector (private/public), employer unit size and composition of earnings and hours paid for. Methods of setting pay data are also available by jurisdiction.

This expanded CURF is available via the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) Remote Access Data Laboratory (RADL). The RADL is accessible for authorised users via the ABS website.

Employee Earnings and Hours, Australia, Expanded CURF, Technical Manual, May 2006 (cat no. 6306.0.55.002) was released on 31 March 2009. This technical manual provides information about confidentialised unit record data from the May 2006 Survey of Employee Earnings and Hours.

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LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND ABS, MARCH 2009

Local Government and ABS, Mar 2009 (cat. no. 1376.0) was released 17 March 2009. This newsletter contains a range of information on ABS developments in rural and regional statistics, and information about recent releases at Local Government level or other regional levels. This issue of the newsletter contains two feature articles. Explore your Local Government Area with CDATA Online, which shows how this tool can be used to create customised tables, maps and graphs for your local government area using 2006 Census data. The second feature article, Statistician's Report on the Census, summarises this release and highlights sections of the report that may be of particular interest to local government users.

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CHARACTERISTICS OF AUSTRALIAN EXPORTERS, 2007-08

Characteristics of Australian Exporters, 2007-08 (cat. no. 5368.0.55.006) was released 26 March 2009. This publication presents an analysis of the characteristics and international trading activities of Australian exporters in 2007-08.

Selected results for Queensland include:

- In 2007-08, there were 5,659 locations of exporters of Queensland goods whose main location was in Queensland and 946 locations of exporters who had a branch office in Queensland.
- The value of Queensland goods exported by exporters with an ABN in 2007-08 was \$35,318m with the major contributors being Retail trade (34%), Mining (26%) and Agriculture, forestry and fishing (23%).
- 20% of Australia's total value of goods exports came from Queensland.

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MUSEUMS, AUSTRALIA, 2007-08

Museums, Australia, 2007-08 (cat. no. 8560.0) was released 27 March 2009. This publication presents results from an Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) survey of organisations engaged in operating museums and art galleries.

Selected results for Queensland include:

- At the end of June 2008, there were 256 museum/gallery locations in Queensland, employing 959 persons.
- During the month of June 2008, 3,366 volunteers at Queensland museums/galleries worked 73,252 hours.
- Queensland museums/galleries generated \$106.0m during the 2007-08 financial year, while labour costs totalled \$42.2m, with total expenses reaching \$86,1m.
- Admissions totalled 3,641,100 in Queensland including 1,002,300 paid admissions.
- The number of museum object/artworks totalled 2,295,300 at the end of June 2008.
- The number of special exhibitions/displays held throughout Queensland during the 2007-08 financial year totalled 1,113.

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CHANGES TO THE ABS SURVEY PROGRAM

The ABS is facing a tight budget situation in 2008-09, which has led to a range of reductions in the ABS work program. The Australian Statistician, Brian Pink, has outlined a number of strategies to address the situation in the document [Changes to the ABS survey program for 2008-09](#) on the ABS Website. Use the link to see what the implications are for the affected surveys or programs and how to get further information.

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ABS RELEASE INFORMATION

The Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) website provides the expected release details for all statistical products due for publication in the coming six months.

The web page 'Releases Scheduled for the Next Six Months' is revised on the ABS website at the beginning of each month. This six-month forecasting is intended to keep clients informed about products and when they will become available.

All ABS core statistical and other statistical publications that usually have a catalogue number will be detailed as well as prominent non-statistical publications such as the ABS Annual Report and Australian Statistics Advisory Council Annual Report.

Access 'Releases Scheduled for the Next Six Months' from the ABS Home page via 'Future Releases' or use this [link](#).

Information on all ABS product releases can also be accessed from [ABS Release Advice](#). This web page also provides links to **Previous Releases**, **Releases Scheduled for the Next Six**



QUEENSLAND THEME PAGE

[This page](#) provides access to Queensland statistical information including statistical releases and links to non-ABS sources. A wide range of economic and social statistics is covered.

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Population



POPULATION

[Population change, Queensland](#)

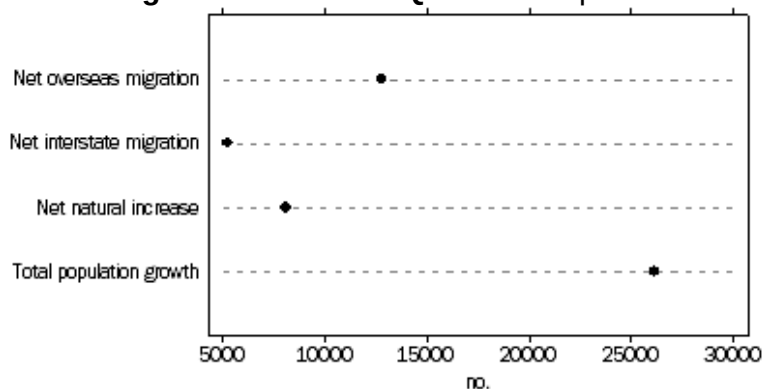
[Regional population growth](#)

POPULATION CHANGE, QUEENSLAND

The preliminary estimated resident population (ERP) for Queensland was 4,320,100 at 30 September 2008, an increase of 105,100 (2.5%) since 30 September 2007. Queensland accounted for 20% of the Australian population at 30 September 2008.

Between the June 2008 quarter and the September 2008 quarter, 49% (12,800 persons) of the total population increase of 26,200 persons was due to net overseas migration, 31% (8,100 persons) to natural increase (excess of births over deaths) and 20% (5,300 persons) attributable to net interstate migration.

Population Change from Previous Quarter - September 2008 quarter



Source: Australian Demographic Statistics (cat. no. 3101.0).

Further information about Queensland's population can be accessed from [Australian](#)

REGIONAL POPULATION GROWTH

At 30 June 2007, the Queensland population was estimated to be 4,182,100 persons. The south east corner comprising Brisbane, Gold Coast, Sunshine Coast and West Moreton statistical divisions accounted for two-thirds (66%) of the state's population.

Regional Population^(a), by Statistical Division: at 30 June - 2001, 2006 and 2007

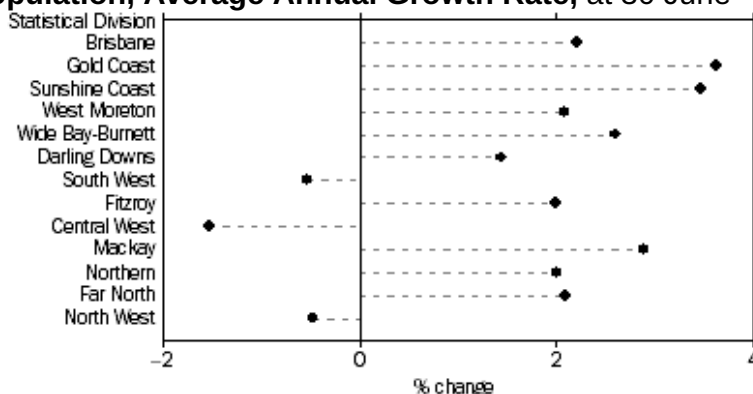
Statistical division	2001 '000	2006 '000	2007 '000
Brisbane	1 629.1	1 820.4	1 857.6
Gold Coast	432.6	518.1	535.5
Sunshine Coast	247.2	295.1	303.1
West Moreton	65.7	72.7	74.3
Wide Bay-Burnett	236.5	269.3	275.7
Darling Downs	210.4	227.1	229.3
South West	27.0	26.4	26.2
Fitzroy	181.7	200.6	204.5
Central West	12.5	11.6	11.4
Mackay	137.5	159.9	163.1
Northern	190.3	209.6	214.3
Far North	224.2	247.6	253.7
North West	34.3	33.2	33.3
Queensland	3 628.9	4 091.5	4 182.1

(a) Estimates as at 30 June are final for 2001, preliminary rebased for 2006 on results of the Census of Population and Housing, 2006, and preliminary for 2007. For all years, statistical divisions are based on the Australian Standard Geographical Classification 2007 Edition.

Source: Regional Population Growth, Australia (cat. no. 3218.0).

The fastest growing statistical divisions over the six years between 30 June 2001 and 30 June 2007 were Gold Coast with an average annual growth rate of 3.6%, Sunshine Coast (3.5%) and Mackay (2.9%). Three statistical divisions recorded negative average annual growth during the same period: North West (-0.5%), South West (-0.5%) and Central West (-1.5%).

Regional Population, Average Annual Growth Rate, at 30 June - 2001 to 2007



Source: Regional Population Growth, Australia (cat. no. 3218.0).

Note: On 24 July 2007, the ABS released preliminary rebased estimates of regional population for June 2006, based on the results of the 2006 Census of Population and Housing. On 1

October 2007, additional data was released with this product. At that time, spreadsheets and a data cube containing estimates for all years from June 1996 to June 2006 became available.

For more information on Queensland's regional population distribution, please refer to [Regional Population Growth, Australia](#) (cat. no. 3218.0) or contact the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070. This publication is released annually.

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Labour Force



LABOUR FORCE

[Job vacancies](#)

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JOB VACANCIES

In original terms, Queensland's total number of job vacancies increased to 41,600 in May 2008 from 38,600 in February 2008. The May 2008 vacancies were 17% higher than in May 2007. Public sector vacancies accounted for around one in ten (7.7%) of total job vacancies in May 2008.



(a) Telstra Corporation changed from the public sector to the private sector between November 2006 and February 2007.

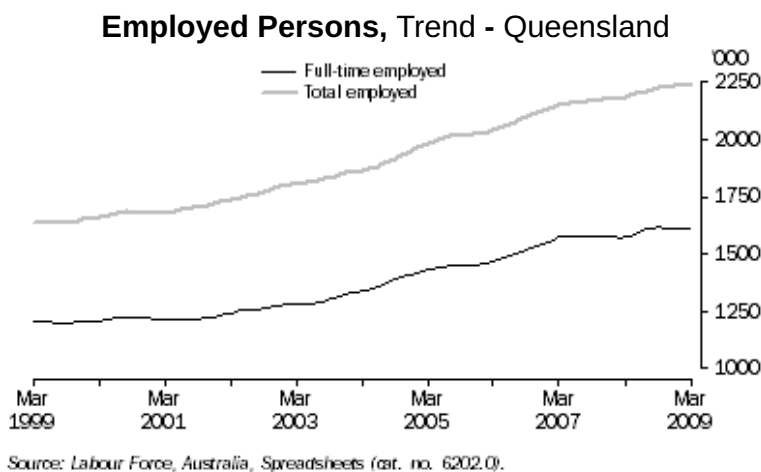
Source: Job Vacancies, Australia (cat. no. 6354.0).

Further information on this topic can be accessed at [Job Vacancies, Australia](#) (cat. no. 6354.0). This is the final issue for 2008. The Survey of Job Vacancies will not be conducted during 2008-09. The survey may be reinstated in 2009-10.

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EMPLOYED PERSONS

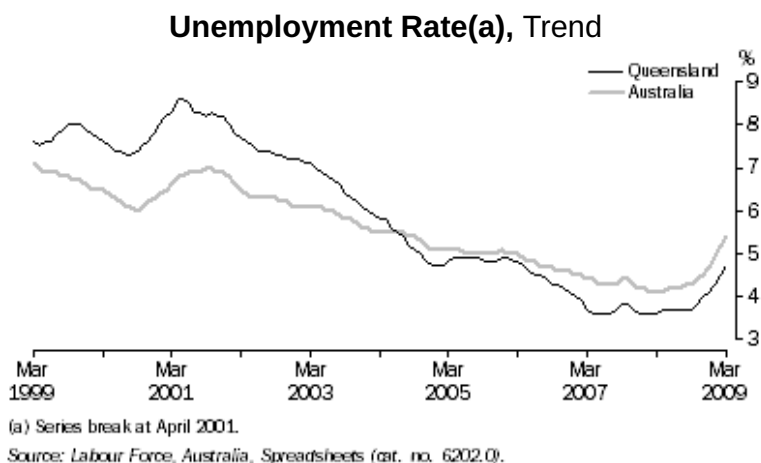
In March 2009, total employment in Queensland in trend terms rose to 2,238,600 persons. Full-time employed persons (1,610,700) accounted for 72% of total employed persons. Males accounted for 64% of full-time employed persons and 54% of total employed persons.



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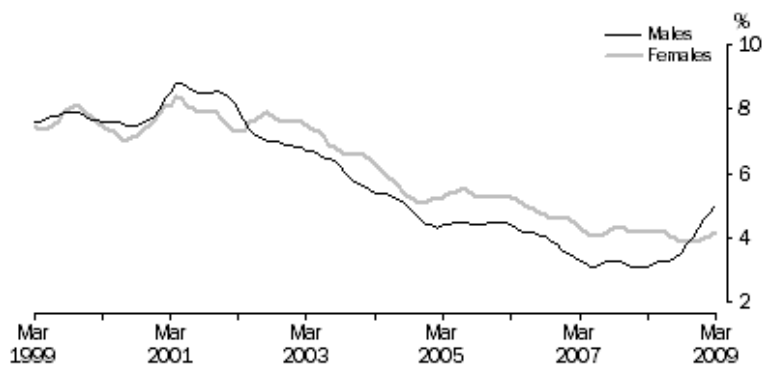
UNEMPLOYMENT

The trend estimate of the number of unemployed persons in Queensland for March 2009 was 109,400 persons. This equates to an unemployment rate of 4.7%. Since July 2004, in trend estimate terms, the Queensland unemployment rate has been lower than the national unemployment rate.



In Queensland in March 2009 the male unemployment rate was 5.0%. The corresponding female unemployment rate was 4.2%. Male unemployment rates have exceeded female unemployment rates since November 2008. This is a recent change from the pattern of female unemployment rates exceeding their male counterparts from May 2002 to October 2008.

Unemployment Rate(a), Trend - Queensland



(a) Series break at April 2001.

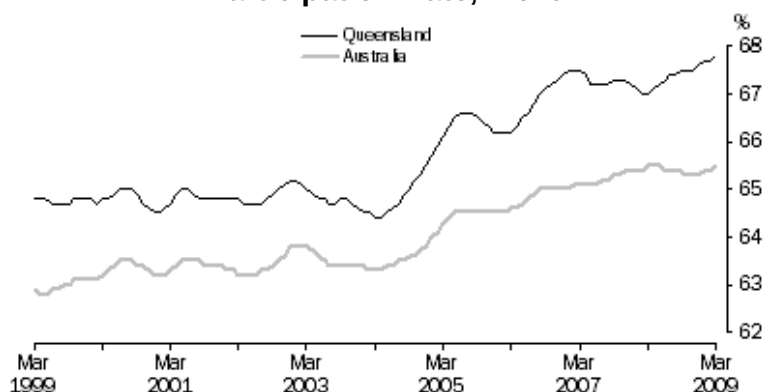
Source: Labour Force, Australia, Spreadsheets (cat. no. 6202.0).

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PARTICIPATION RATE

The trend estimate of the participation rate for Queensland in March 2009 was 67.8%. This rate is 3.0 percentage points higher than March 1999. Queensland has recorded equal to or higher participation rates than the national average since February 1989.

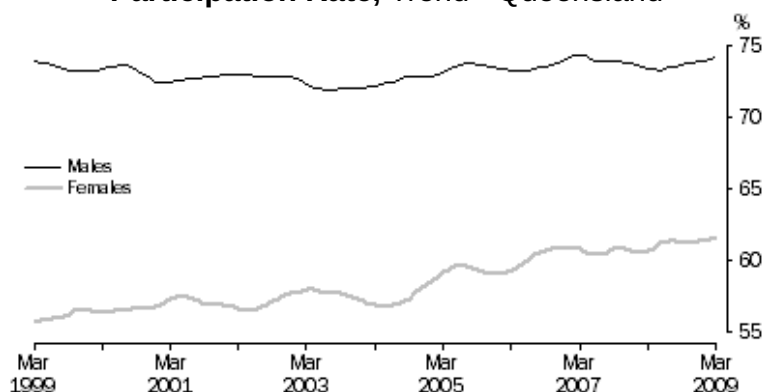
Participation Rate, Trend



Source: Labour Force, Australia, Spreadsheets (cat. no. 6202.0).

For Queensland, the trend participation rate for females has been over 60% since June 2006, and was 61.6% in March 2009. This is a 5.8 percentage points increase on the female participation rate recorded in March 1999. The male participation rate in March 2009 was 74.2%, 0.2 percentage points higher than the rate recorded for March 1999.

Participation Rate, Trend - Queensland



Source: Labour Force, Australia, Spreadsheets (cat. no. 6202.0).

Further information on these topics can be accessed at [Labour Force, Australia](#) (cat. no. 6202.0) or by contacting the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070. These publications are released monthly.

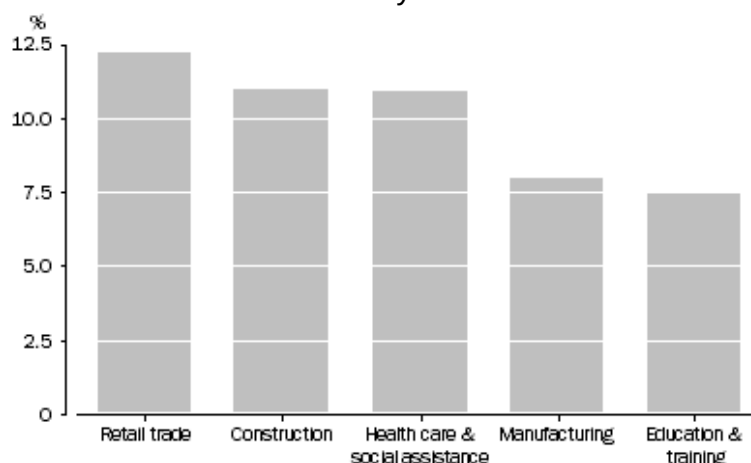
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EMPLOYED PERSONS BY INDUSTRY

There were 2,231,500 employed persons in Queensland in February 2009. The five major industries with the most number of employed persons were Retail trade (272,500), Construction (245,300), Health care and social assistance (243,600), Manufacturing (179,500) and Education and training (166,600). Those industries employing the least number of persons included Electricity, gas, water and waste services (31,200), Information, media and telecommunications (35,800) and Arts and recreation services (38,100).

The five major industries with the most number of employed persons accounted for one half (50%) of Queensland's employed.

Employed Persons by Industry, Original - Percentage of total employed: Queensland - February 2009



Source: *Labour Force, Australia, Detailed, Quarterly* (cat. no. 6291.0.55.003).

In the year February 2008 to February 2009, the greatest increase of employed persons occurred in the Mining industry (34%). In the same period, Rental, hiring and real estate services had the greatest decrease in employed persons with a reduction of 16%.

Note: Employed persons by industry has been reported in original terms and cannot be directly compared to the trend estimates reported for Labour Force.

For more detailed information on this topic, please refer to [Labour Force, Australia, Detailed, Quarterly](#) (cat. no. 6291.0.55.003) or contact the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070. This publication is released quarterly.

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Prices



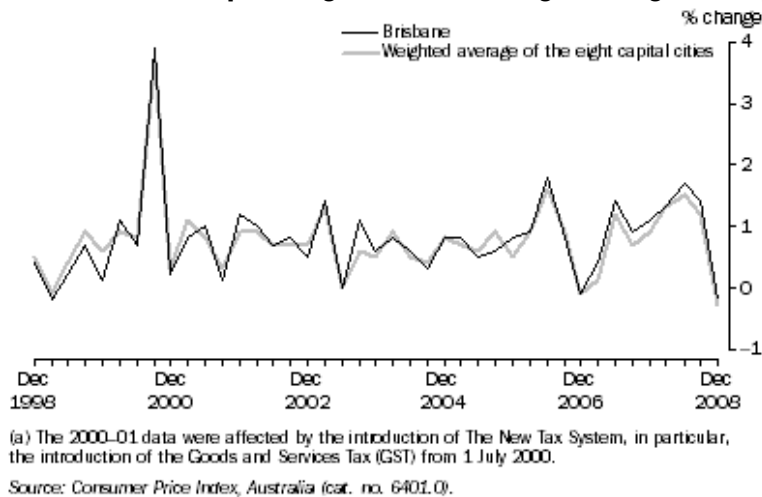
PRICES

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX

The all groups consumer price index (CPI) for Brisbane increased by 4.3% in the 12 months to December quarter 2008 compared with a 3.7% increase in the weighted average of the eight capital cities. Brisbane recorded the highest rise of any capital city. This higher result was largely due to stronger than average rises in housing prices.

Between the September quarter 2008 and the December quarter 2008 the Brisbane CPI decreased by 0.2% compared with a decrease of 0.3% for the weighted average of the eight capital cities. Along with Sydney and Hobart, Brisbane recorded the lowest CPI decrease of all capital cities. The transport group was the main contributor to the fall in all cities due to the impact of price decreases in automotive fuel.

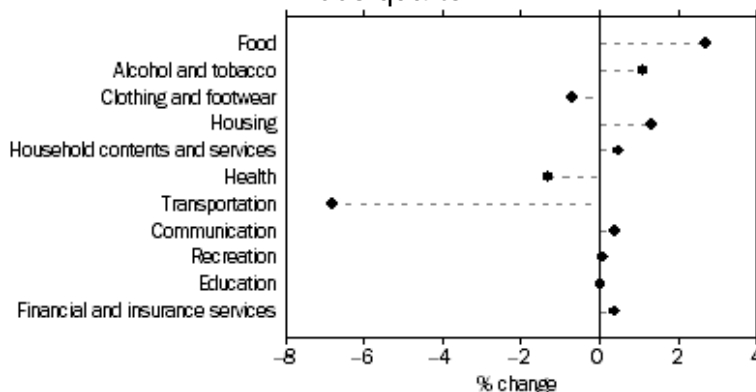
Consumer Price Index - All Groups, Original - Percentage change from previous quarter(a)



Despite the overall decrease, in the December 2008 quarter, most of the majority of Brisbane price categories groups increased compared with the previous quarter. The largest increases were Food (2.7%), Housing (1.3%) and Alcohol and tobacco (1.1%). Brisbane recorded the largest increase in the CPI for food compared to all other capital cities.

Over the same period, Transportation decreased 6.8%, Health 1.3% and Clothing and footwear 0.7%.

CPI Movement, Brisbane, Original - Percentage change from previous quarter: December 2008 quarter



For more detailed information on the consumer price index, please refer to [Consumer Price Index, Australia](#) (cat no. 6401.0) or contact the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070. This publication is released quarterly.

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Production



PRODUCTION

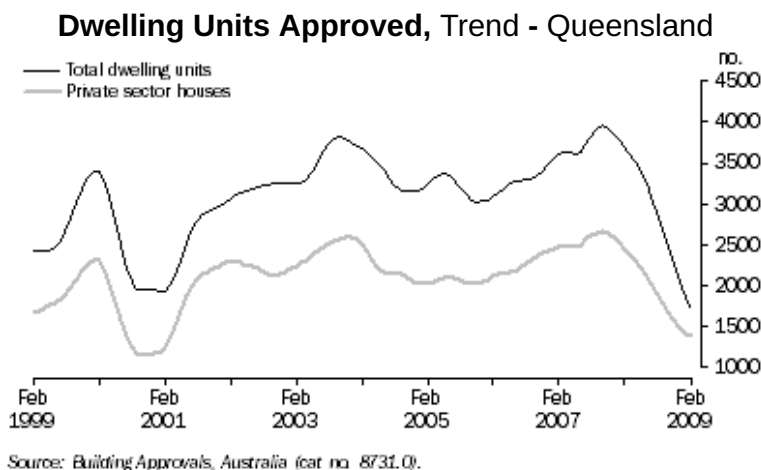
[Building approvals](#)

[Building activity](#)

[Engineering construction](#)

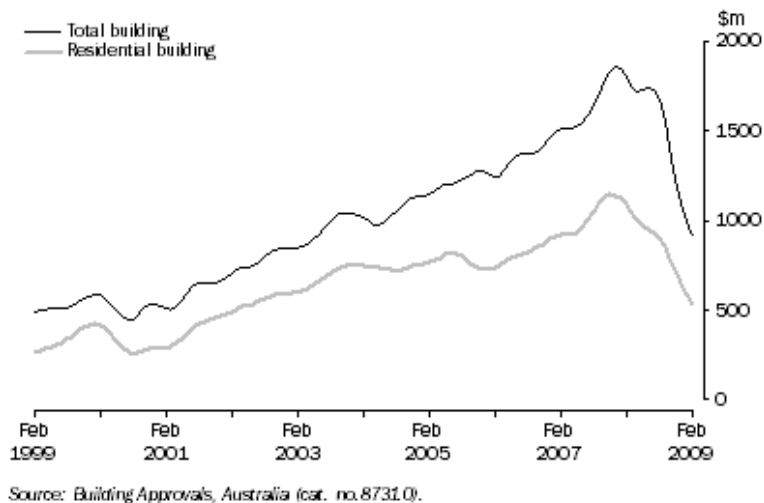
BUILDING APPROVALS

In February 2009, the total number of dwelling units approved in Queensland in trend terms was 1,726. This was a drop of 7.7% from the previous month and the sixteenth consecutive monthly fall. Total approvals are at levels last seen in the middle of 1986. The trend estimate for private sector houses was 1,379 approvals which represents more than three-quarters (80%) of total dwelling units approved. Of all the published states (NSW, Vic, Qld, SA and WA), Queensland experienced the largest fall (3.2%) in the trend estimate for private sector houses.



In February 2009, the total value of building approvals in trend terms was \$912.1 million, a 7.9% decrease from the previous month and a 49% decrease from February 2008. Residential buildings accounted for 59% of the total value of buildings.

Value of Building Approved, Trend - Queensland



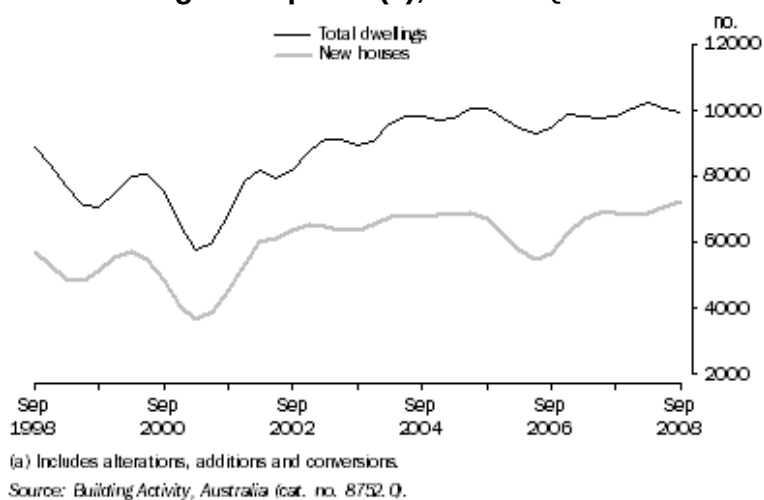
For more information on this topic, please refer to [Building Approvals, Australia](#) (cat. no. 8731.0) or contact the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070. This publication is released monthly.

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BUILDING ACTIVITY

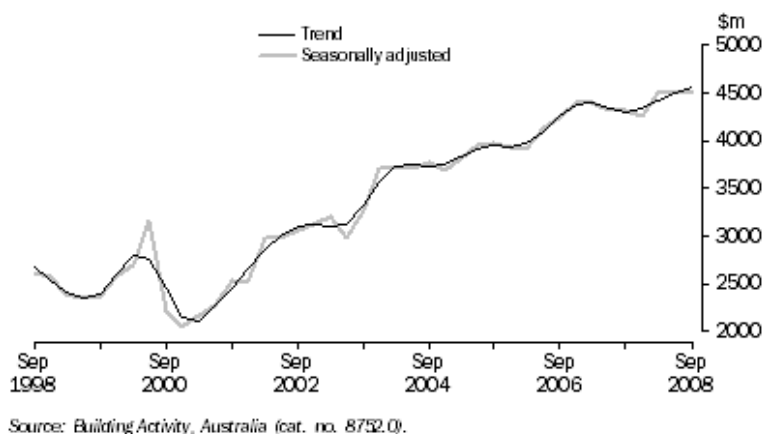
In the September 2008 quarter, the total number of dwelling units completed in trend terms in Queensland was 9,907. This is a decrease of 1.5% from the June 2008 quarter. There were 7,233 new houses completed during the September 2008 quarter which represents 73% of the total number of dwelling units completed.

Dwellings Completed(a), Trend - Queensland



In the September 2008 quarter, the trend estimate of the value of total building work done was \$4,555.7 million, a 6.1% increase from September 2007 quarter.

Value of Work Done, Chain Volume Measures - Queensland



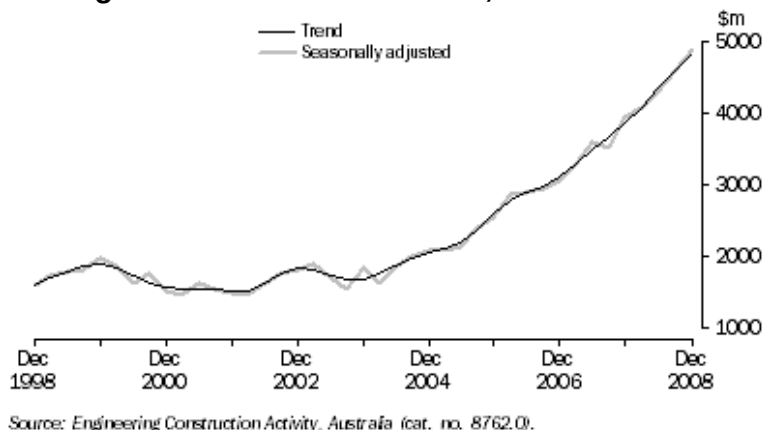
For more information on this topic, please refer to [Building Activity, Australia](#) (cat. no. 8752.0) or contact the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070. This publication is released quarterly.

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ENGINEERING CONSTRUCTION

Between the September 2008 and December 2008 quarters, the Queensland chain volume trend estimate of the value of engineering construction increased by 5.4% to \$4,853.1 million. This continues the period of strong growth since December 2003 quarter.

Engineering Construction Work Done, Chain Volume Measures



For further information on this topic, access [Engineering Construction Activity, Australia](#) (cat. no. 8762.0) or contact the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070. This publication is released quarterly.

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Housing Finance

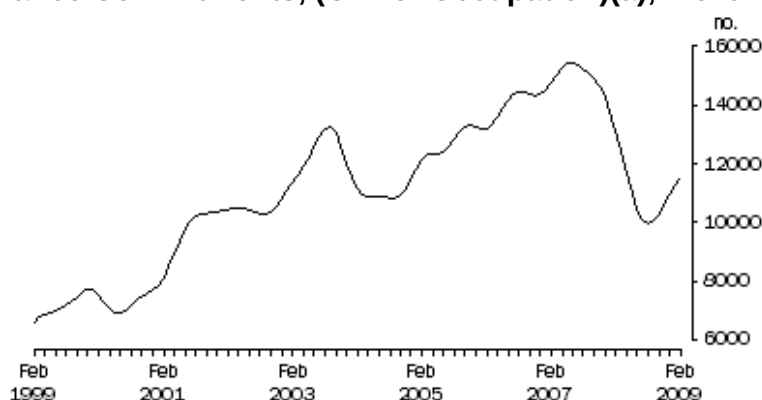


HOUSING FINANCE

HOUSING FINANCE COMMITMENTS

In Queensland, the number of owner occupied housing commitments in trend estimate terms increased from January 2009 to February 2009 to 11,524 (up 2.3%). Conversely, there was a decrease of 12% from February 2008 to February 2009.

Housing Finance Commitments, (Owner Occupation)(a), Trend - Queensland



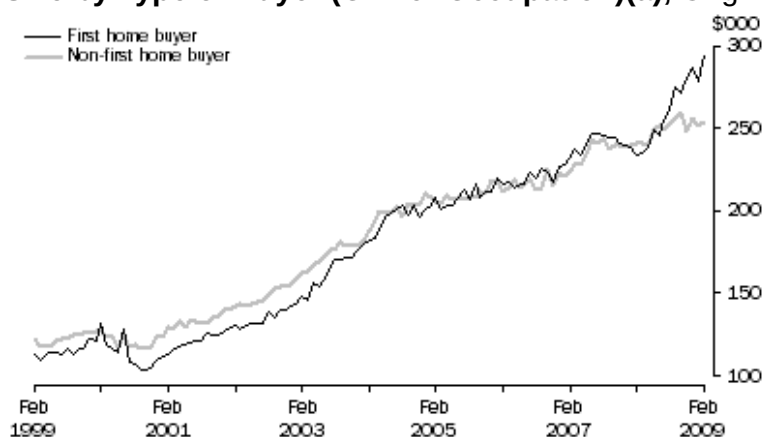
(a) Excludes alterations and additions. Includes refinancing.
Source: Housing Finance, Australia (cat. no. 5609.0).

The trend estimate of the total value of housing finance commitments for owner occupation in Queensland increased by 2.4%, to \$3,013 million, from January 2009 to February 2009. In contrast, over the year to February 2009, in trend estimate terms, the value of housing finance commitments showed a decrease of 4.4%.

Since February 1999, the average home loan commitment for owner occupied dwellings in Queensland has more than doubled from \$119,400 to \$265,000.

In February 2009, the average loan size for first home buyers (\$294,800) increased 6.1% from the previous month. The February 2009 average loan size for non-first home buyers (\$254,100) increased 1.2% from the previous month.

Average Loan Size by Type of Buyer (Owner Occupation)(a), Original - Queensland



(a) Excludes alterations and additions. Includes refinancing.
Source: Housing Finance, Australia (cat. no. 5609.0).

Further information on this topic is available in [Housing Finance, Australia](#) (cat. no. 5609.0) or by contacting the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070. This publication is released monthly.

Incomes



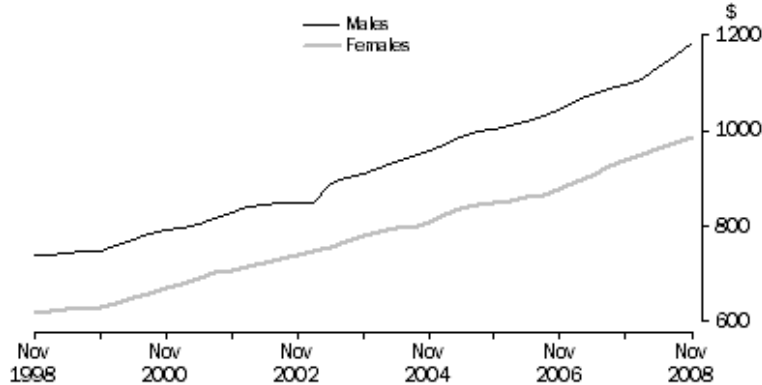
INCOMES

AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS

The trend estimate of average weekly ordinary time earnings for full-time adult persons in Queensland increased by 7.7% to \$1,115.60 in the 12 months to November 2008. Nationally, the corresponding increase was lower at 5.2% (up to \$1,164.90).

The trend estimate of full-time adult average weekly ordinary time earnings in Queensland rose by 8.1% for males and 5.4% for females over the 12 months to November 2008. The November 2008 female estimate of \$988.20 was 84% of the corresponding male estimate of \$1,183.10.

Average Weekly Earnings, Full-Time Adult Ordinary Time, Trend - Queensland



Source: Average Weekly Earnings, Australia (cat. no. 6302.0).

More information on average weekly earnings can be accessed at [Average Weekly Earnings, Australia](#) (cat. no. 6302.0) or by contacting the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070. This publication is released quarterly.

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Consumption and Investment



CONSUMPTION AND INVESTMENT

[Retail trade](#)

[New motor vehicle sales](#)

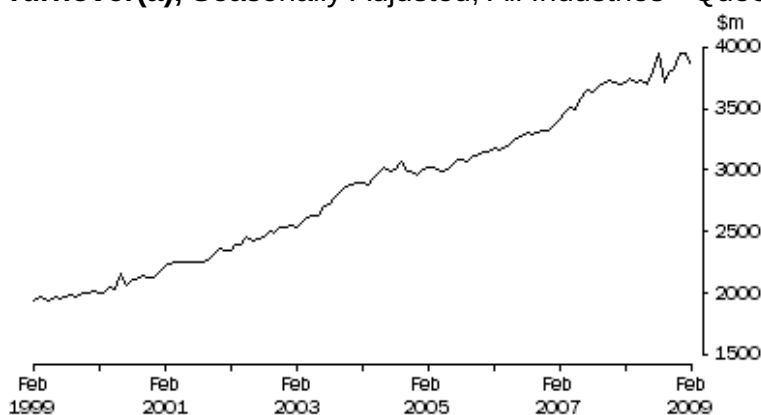
[Private new capital expenditure](#)

RETAIL TRADE

The Federal Government Economic Security Strategy Package implemented in December 2008 has impacted on Australian retail turnover. If trend estimates were to be calculated without fully accounting for this irregular event, they would be likely to provide a misleading view of the underlying trend in retail activity. Until data is available in future months, it is not possible to determine the trend in retail turnover through the period affected by the stimulus package. As a result, the retail trend series have been suspended as at November 2008.

The February 2009 seasonally adjusted estimate for Queensland's retail turnover was \$3,855 million, a 2.2% decrease from January 2009. Food retailing accounted for the greatest proportion of retail turnover in February 2009, at 44%, followed by Household good retailing, at 15%.

Retail Turnover(a), Seasonally Adjusted, All Industries - Queensland



(a) There was a break in the trend series between June 2000 and July 2000 due to the introduction of The New Tax System.

Source: Retail Trade Trends, Australia (cat. no. 8501.0).

Further information about this topic can be accessed at [Retail Trade Trends, Australia](#) (cat. no. 8501.0) or by contacting the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070. This publication is released monthly.

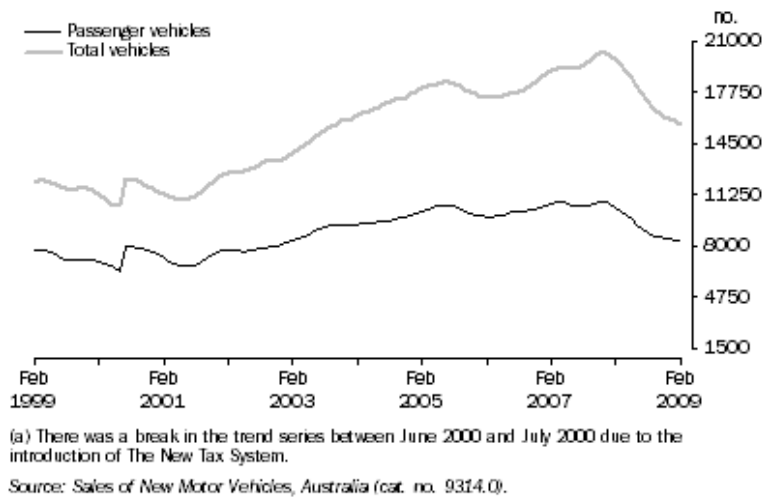
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NEW MOTOR VEHICLE SALES

In trend terms, 8,332 new passenger vehicles and 15,746 new vehicles in total were sold in Queensland in February 2009. Corresponding sales for Australia were 44,490 and 74,254. When comparing February 2009 with January 2009, Queensland recorded a 0.7% decrease in total new vehicle sales, the fourteenth consecutive monthly decrease.

In January 1999, new passenger vehicle sales accounted for 65% of total new vehicle sales in Queensland. By February 2009, the proportion for new passenger vehicle sales had fallen to 53%.

New Motor Vehicle Sales, Trend(a) - Queensland



Further information about new motor vehicle sales can be accessed from [Sales of New Motor Vehicles, Australia](#) (cat. no. 9314.0) or by contacting the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070. This publication is released monthly.

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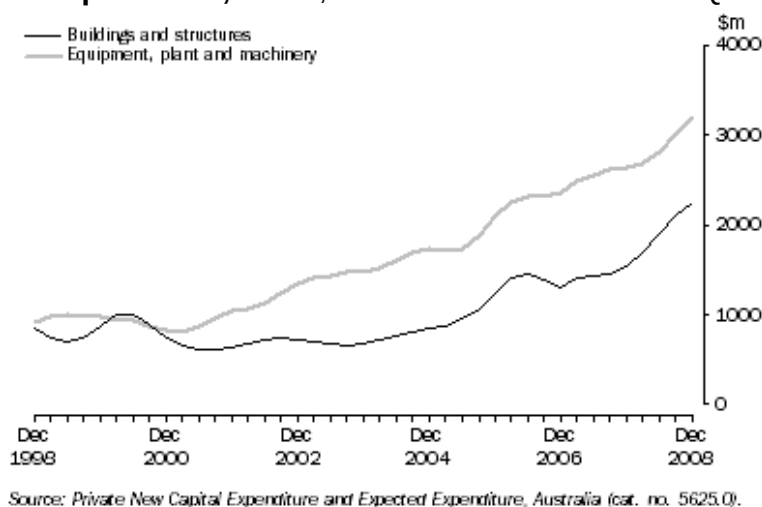
PRIVATE NEW CAPITAL EXPENDITURE

Between the September 2008 and the December 2008 quarters, the Queensland chain volume trend estimate of private new capital expenditure increased by 6.6% to \$5,439 million.

During the same period, expenditure on Equipment, plant and machinery increased by 6.5% to \$3,191 million while expenditure on Buildings and structures increased by 7.4% to \$2,260 million.

Comparing the December 2008 quarter with the December 2007 quarter, Queensland's total private new capital expenditure increased by 31%. Expenditure on Equipment, plant and machinery grew by 21% and expenditure on Buildings and structures increased by 48%.

Private New Capital Expenditure, Trend, Chain Volume Measures - Queensland: by quarter



Further information on this topic can be accessed at [Private New Capital Expenditure and Expected Expenditure, Australia](#) (cat. no. 5625.0) or by contacting the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070. This publication is released quarterly.

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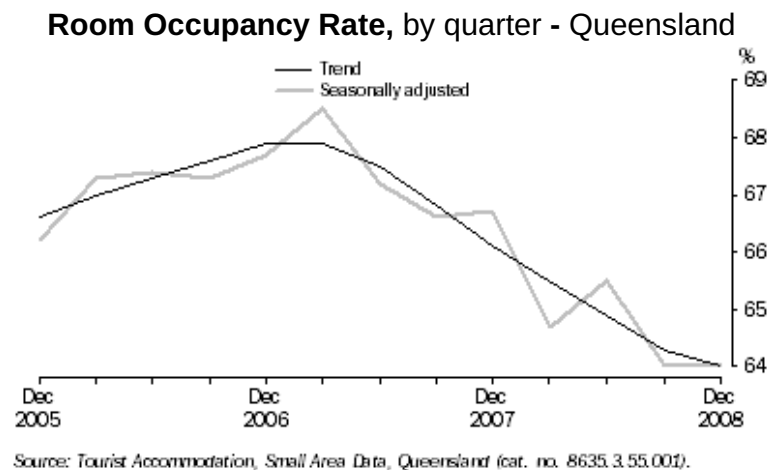
Tourist Accommodation



TOURIST ACCOMMODATION

QUEENSLAND HOTELS, MOTELS AND SERVICED APARTMENTS WITH 15 OR MORE ROOMS

In the December 2008 quarter, there were 1,131 hotels, motels and serviced apartments with 15 or more rooms. These establishments had a guest room capacity of 61,521 rooms. The trend estimate of the room occupancy rate for Queensland was 64.0%, slightly higher than the national average (63.7%).



In the December 2008 quarter, Queensland hotels, motels and serviced apartments with 15 or more rooms catered for 2.7 million guest arrivals. Queensland establishments reported the longest average length of stay for guests (2.7 days) of all states and territories. The national average was 2.3 days.

The trend estimate of Queensland total accommodation takings for hotels, motels and serviced apartments with 15 rooms was \$519.7 million in the December 2008 quarter.

For more detailed information on Queensland's tourist accommodation, please refer to [Tourist Accommodation, Australia](#) (cat. no. 8635.0) and [Tourist Accommodation, Small Area Data, Queensland](#) (cat. no. 8635.3.55.001) or contact the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070. This publication and data cube are released quarterly.

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Interstate Trade



INTERSTATE TRADE

QUEENSLAND'S INTERSTATE TRADE

The value of interstate imports for Queensland in the December quarter 2008 was \$10,627 million. The value of interstate exports in the December quarter 2008 was \$5,560.3 million.

Queensland Interstate Trade

	Sep qtr 2008 \$m	Dec qtr 2008 \$m	Change between quarters %
Imports	10 875.8	10 627.0	-2.3
Exports	4 990.9	5 560.3	11.4

The two tables below, provide the five largest commodities for imports and exports in the December quarter 2008. Please contact us if you would like to receive detailed commodity data. Contact information is stated below.

Queensland Interstate Trade, Imports - December quarter 2008

	\$m
Commodity	
Other manufactured goods	1 363.1
Other food and live animals	1 238.9
Other miscellaneous manufactured articles	1 042.1
Road vehicles	858.0
Machinery specialised for particular industries	*852.0

* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution.

Queensland Interstate Trade, Exports - December quarter 2008

	\$m
Commodity	
Other miscellaneous manufactured articles	*698.4
Other manufactured goods	682.6
Other food and live animals	580.1
Beverages	464.4
Other chemicals	**368.2

* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution.

** estimate has a relative standard error of greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use.

Note: Interstate trade data are released quarterly. This is the third quarter for which the Queensland interstate trade estimates have been produced using sample survey methodology. As the new methodology differs significantly from that of the old survey, the results should be considered a break in series.

For further information on Queensland's Interstate trade, please contact the Australian Bureau of Statistics, Queensland Interstate Trade on 1800 654 467.

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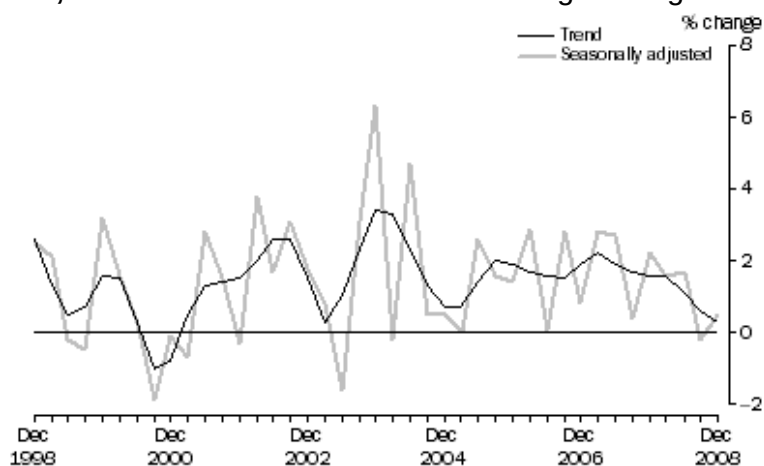


STATE ACCOUNTS

Queensland's December quarter 2008 State Final Demand in chain volume (trend) terms was \$58,128 million, a \$192 million (0.3%) increase from the September quarter 2008. Australia's Domestic Final Demand increased 0.3% over the same period, to \$284,426 million.

Of the states and territories, the strongest growth for the quarter was reported in Northern Territory (up 1.8%), followed by Western Australia (up 1.0%) and Tasmania (up 0.8%).

State Final Demand, Chain volume measures - Percentage change from previous quarter



Source: Australian National Accounts: National Income, Expenditure and Product (cat. no. 5206.0).

For more detailed information on this topic, please refer to [Australian National Accounts: National Income, Expenditure and Product](#) (cat. no. 5206.0) or contact the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070. This publication is released quarterly.

Articles

ARTICLES

ARTICLES ON STATISTICAL ISSUES WITH A QUEENSLAND THEME

Criminal Courts in Queensland, 2007-08

This article provides an overview of Queensland criminal courts, which comprise Higher Courts (the Supreme Court and District Courts), Magistrate's Courts and Children's Courts. Data are shown for defendants finalised, (proven guilty, acquitted, charges withdrawn and other - unfit to plead, deceased), defendants proven guilty by plea or finding of the court, time taken to finalise. In addition, defendants adjudicated by age group and sex, defendants proven guilty by offence group, age and sentence outcome are also included.

Index of previous articles

This provides a list of articles that have been released in previous issues of Qld Stats with links to those articles.

Index of Articles

Issue	Article Title
2009	
February	150 Years of Queensland's Economic History: Key Dates, Facts and Figures
January	Deaths, Queensland, 2007
2008	
November	Births, Queensland, 2007
October	Water Use on Queensland Farms, 2006-07
August	Natural Resource Management on Queensland Farms, 2006-07
July	Recorded Crime - Victims, Queensland, 2007 Forms of Employment, Queensland - November 2007
June	Labour Force Characteristics of Queensland Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People, 2007 Household Preparedness for Emergencies Queensland - October 2007
May	Involvement in Organised Sport and Physical Activity, Queensland, April 2007
April	General Social Survey, 2006: Financial Stressors, Queensland
2007	
December	General Social Survey, 2006: Personal Stressors, Queensland
November	Census Data - Second Release Young People in the Labour Market, Queensland, 2007
September	General Social Survey, 2006: Characteristics of Family and Community Support & Crime and Safety
July	Forms of Employment, Queensland, November 2006 Working Time Arrangements, Queensland, November 2006
June	Preferred Working Hours of Wage and Salary Earners, Queensland, October 2006
May	National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Survey: Queensland, 2004-05 Energy Use and Conservation, March 2005

About this Release

Qld Stats is an electronic magazine containing an overview of Queensland's key economic and social indicators presented in graphs, tables and analytical summaries with links to more detailed products. Qld Stats also contains news of seminars, releases and other matters of statistical interest for Queensland.

Qld Stats replaces Queensland Key Statistics (cat. no. 1388.3) and Statistical Update, Queensland (cat. no. 1316.3). These two products have been discontinued.

Qld Stats is issued monthly, after the release of Labour Force data, with tables and graphs updated to the latest available data. Analytical summaries are included when available.

Readers can get further information, including Explanatory Notes, on each of the topics by using the links to source materials contained on each page.

Criminal Courts in Queensland, 2007-08 (Feature Article)

CRIMINAL COURTS IN QUEENSLAND, 2007-08

INTRODUCTION

HIGHER COURTS

MAGISTRATES' COURTS

CHILDREN'S COURTS

FURTHER INFORMATION

INTRODUCTION

There are three levels of criminal jurisdiction in Queensland: Higher Courts, Magistrates' Courts and Children's Courts.

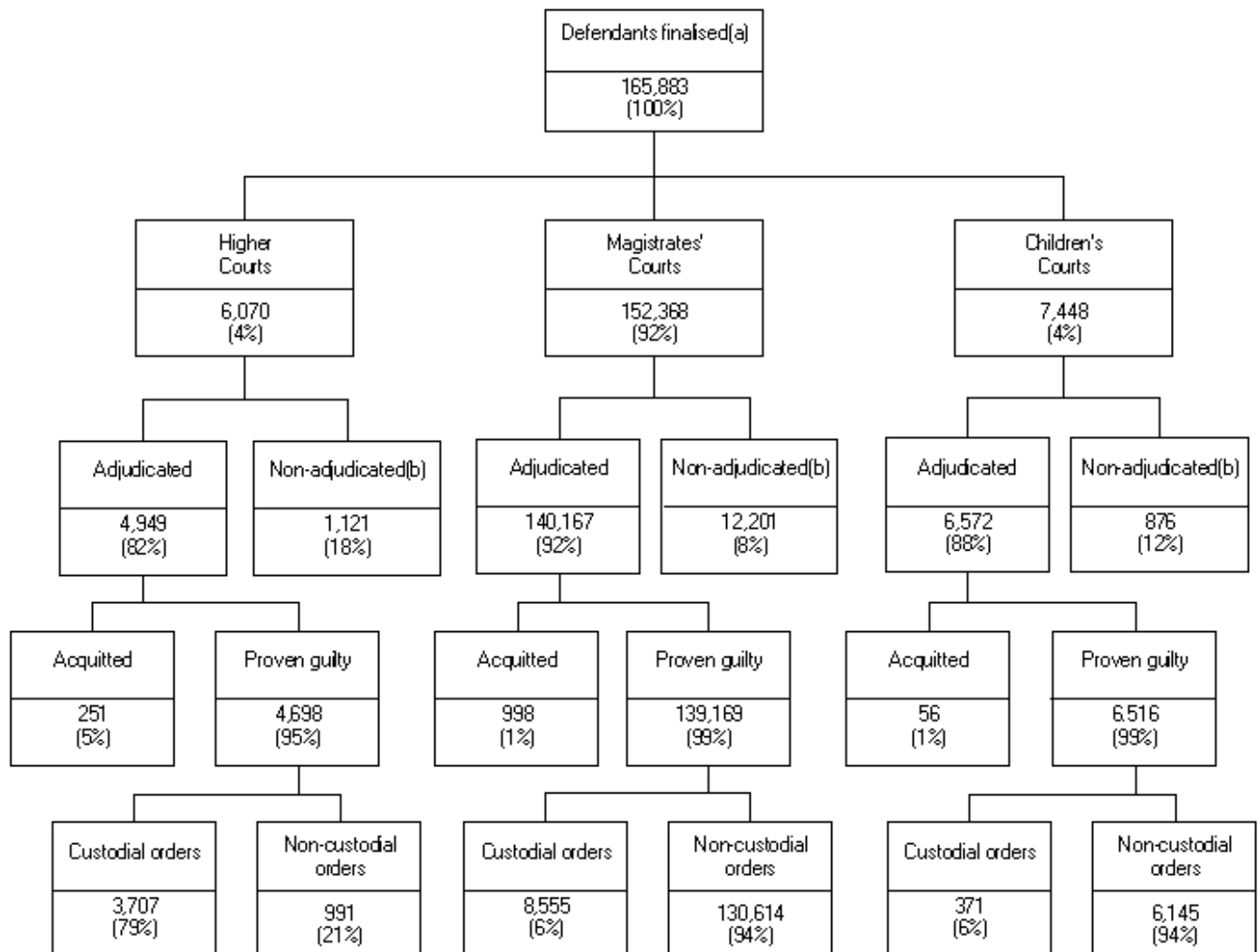
Serious criminal matters such as murder, manslaughter and drug trafficking as well as serious sexual offences, robberies and assaults are dealt with in the Supreme Courts in every state and territory. Queensland also has an intermediate court known as the District Court which deals with the majority of serious criminal offences. Similar intermediate courts also exist in New South Wales, Victoria, South Australia and Western Australia. Supreme Courts and District Courts are herein referred to collectively as Higher Courts. Defendants in Higher Courts are entitled to trial before a judge and jury although the defendant may elect to have the matter heard before a judge alone.

The lowest level of criminal court in Queensland is the Magistrates' Court. Cases heard in the Magistrates' Courts do not involve a jury as a magistrate determines the guilt or innocence of the defendant. This is known as a summary proceeding. The majority of criminal cases are heard in these courts.

Each state and territory has Children's Courts to deal with offences alleged to have been committed by young people. Generally these are summary proceedings. In Queensland, there are two types of Children's Courts: the Children's Court which is a specially set up Magistrates' Court that deals with simple offences and is closed to the public; and the Children's Court of Queensland, which is a special District Court without a jury. This court has power to deal with indictable offences where the accused is aged under 17 years. In Queensland, defendants aged 17 years or over at the time of the offence are considered to be adults and do not appear in Children's Courts. In all other states and territories defendants are considered to be an adult only when aged 18 years and over. Where a person aged under 17 years at the time the offence was committed, is accused of an indictable offence, the accused can choose whether to be dealt with in the Children's Court or to be tried in the District Court or Supreme Court.

State legislation determines which types of offences may be heard summarily or otherwise in Magistrates' Courts and Children's Courts and which must be referred to a Higher Court.

SUMMARY CHARACTERISTICS OF DEFENDANTS, Queensland, 2007-08



(a) Defendants will be counted twice where they are transferred from one of the three court levels and then finalised within the same reference period.

(b) Also includes transfers to other courts. Non-adjudicated methods of finalisations include cases where a charge is withdrawn by the prosecution, where a defendant dies or is deemed unfit to plead.

In 2007-08, there were a total of 165,883 defendants finalised in Queensland's criminal courts. Across all court levels: 1,305 (0.8%) defendants were acquitted; 150,383 (91%) were proven guilty; and 9,820 (5.9%) had their charges withdrawn by the prosecution.

Of those defendants proven guilty, 12,633 (8.4%) were sentenced to a custodial order, and 137,750 (92%) were sentenced to a non-custodial order (includes community supervision or work orders, monetary orders, and other non-custodial orders).

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HIGHER COURTS

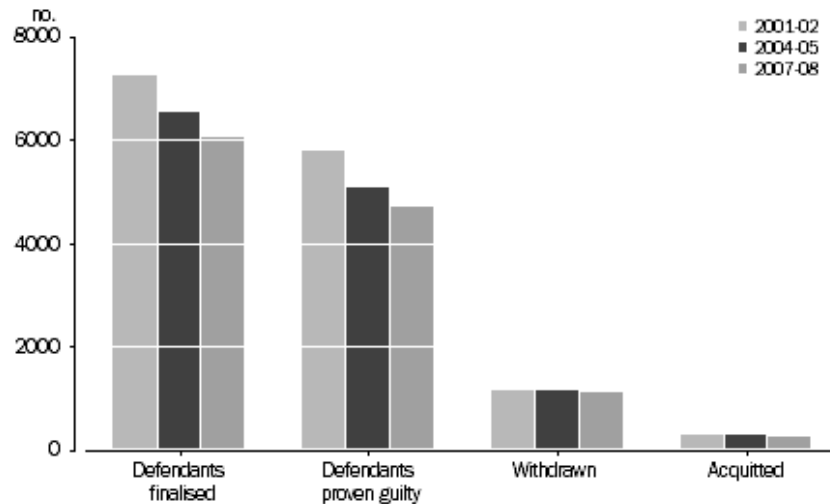
Higher Courts in Queensland comprise the Supreme Courts and the District Courts. These courts try and sentence matters relating to indictable and serious criminal offences.

Snapshot

- In 2007-08 there were 6,070 defendants finalised in Higher Courts in Queensland, an increase of 2.2% from 2006-07 (5,937), and a decrease of 16% from 2001-02 (7,230).
- Between 2001-02 and 2007-08, the proportion of female defendants has varied between one in six and one in seven defendants.
- Between 2006-07 and 2007-08, the number of defendants proven guilty of sexual assault and related offences decreased from 559 to 537. However, the number sentenced to custody in a correctional institution, increased from 339 to 402.

- Of the 4,949 defendants adjudicated in the Higher Courts in 2007-08, the majority (4,698 or 95%) were proven guilty. Of those proven guilty, 4,420 (94%) pleaded guilty and 278 (5.9%) were found guilty following a trial.
- Of the 4,698 defendants proven guilty, 3,707 (79%) were sentenced to custodial orders. Of these defendants proven guilty, 62% were sentenced to custody in a correctional institution, 4.0% were sentenced to custody in the community, and 13% received a fully suspended sentence.

HIGHER COURTS: OUTCOMES, Queensland, 2001-02 to 2007-08



Defendants Finalised

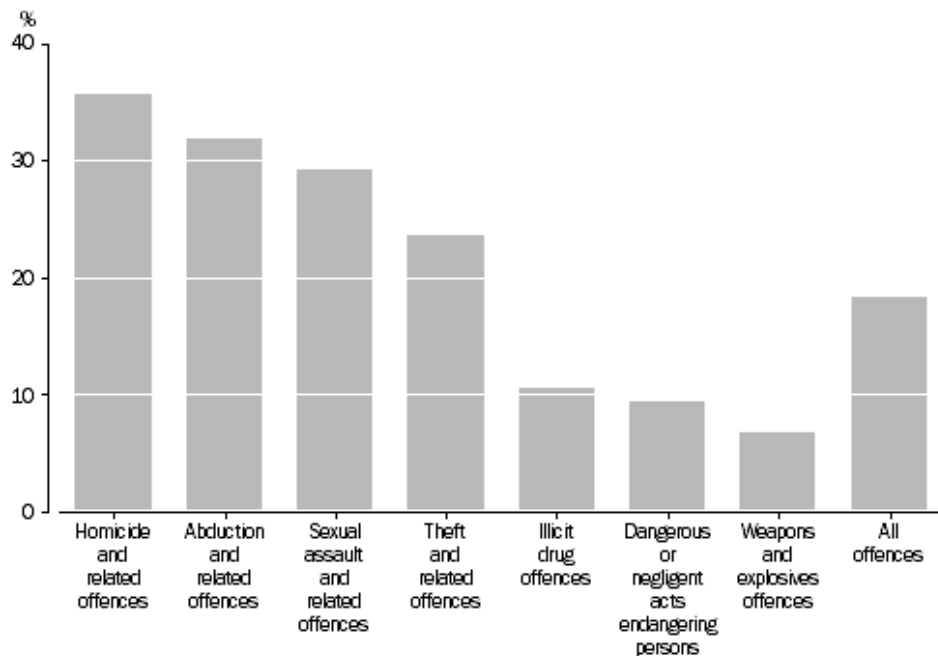
During 2007-08, Higher Courts in Queensland dealt with 6,070 defendants, of which 251 were acquitted and 1,108 had charges withdrawn. Males constituted 85% of defendants finalised and females 15%.

There were 4,698 defendants proven guilty (by finding of the court or guilty plea), 62% of whom were sentenced to custody in a correctional institution.

In 2007-08, 1,108 (18%) defendants finalised in the Higher Courts had charges withdrawn by the prosecution. Of these defendants whose charges were withdrawn by the prosecution, 41% received this finalisation at over 52 weeks.

The principal offence with the largest number of defendants with charges withdrawn by the prosecution in 2007-08 was acts intended to cause injury (337), followed by sexual assault and related offences (272). Principal offences with the largest proportions of defendants with charges withdrawn were: homicide and related offences (36%); abduction and related offences (32%), and sexual assault and related offences (29%). Withdrawal of charges is a non-adjudicated method of finalisation and allows the prosecution to charge the defendant on the same incident at a later time.

HIGHER COURTS: PROPORTION OF CHARGES WITHDRAWN, SELECTED PRINCIPAL OFFENCES, Queensland, 2007-08

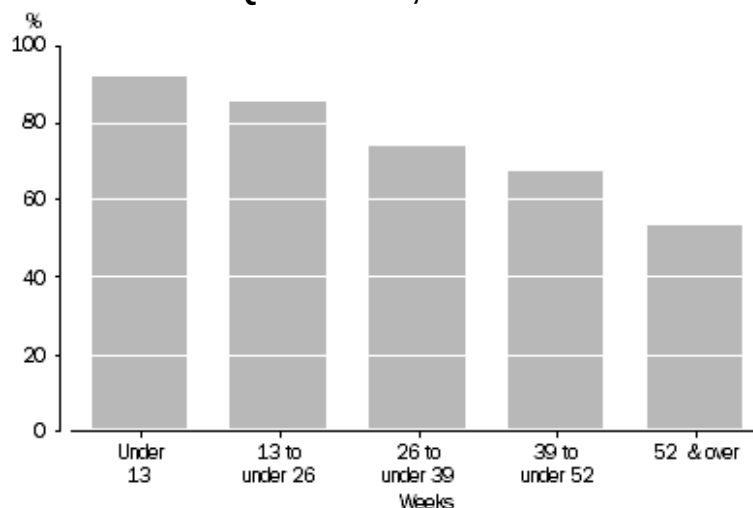


Defendants Adjudicated

There were 4,949 defendants adjudicated in Queensland Higher Courts in 2007-08, the most common charges were: acts intended to cause injury (1,418); illicit drug offences (829); and sexual assault and related offences (660).

In 2007-08, the proportion of defendants found guilty by the court (5.6%) and acquitted by the court (5.1%) were comparable. The majority (89%) of defendants adjudicated in the Higher Courts pleaded guilty.

HIGHER COURTS: PROPORTION OF DEFENDANTS PLEADING GUILTY BY DURATION, Queensland, 2007-08



Defendants Proven Guilty

During 2007-08, of those defendants found guilty: 13% received fully suspended sentences; 4% received custody in the community orders; and 62% were given prison sentences. Non-custodial orders (fines, community supervision/work orders, restitution, etc.) were given to 21% of defendants proven guilty.

MAGISTRATES' COURTS

Magistrates' Courts operate in all states and territories and try and sentence criminal matters relating to summary offences (such as traffic offences and disorderly behaviour) and hear indictable offences summarily.

Magistrates' Courts data presented here exclude matters which do not require the adjudication of charges. Also excluded are breach of bail or parole cases, appeal cases, tribunal matters and defendants for whom a bench warrant is issued, but not executed.

Snapshot

- During 2007-08, a total of 152,368 defendants were finalised in Queensland Magistrates' Courts. This is an increase of 18% since 2003-04 when there were 129,029 defendants finalised.
- In 2007-08, the majority of defendants were finalised for road traffic and motor vehicle regulatory offences (51,624 or 34%), followed by public order offences (26,127 or 17%)
- The proportion of males finalised has been stable at 78% since 2003-04. In 2007-08, 119,483 males, 31,765 females and 666 organisations were finalised in Queensland Magistrates' Courts.
- During 2007-08, 140,167 or 92% of defendants were adjudicated in Queensland Magistrates' Courts. Non-adjudicated finalisations include transfers to other courts (4,017 or 2.6%) and withdrawn by the prosecution (8,181 or 5.4%). Other possible non-adjudicated finalisations include transfers to non-court agencies, defendant unfit to plead and defendant deceased.
- Of the 140,167 defendants adjudicated in Queensland Magistrates' Courts, 139,169 or 99% were found guilty.
- Of the 139,169 defendants found guilty, 130,164 or 94% received non-custodial orders.

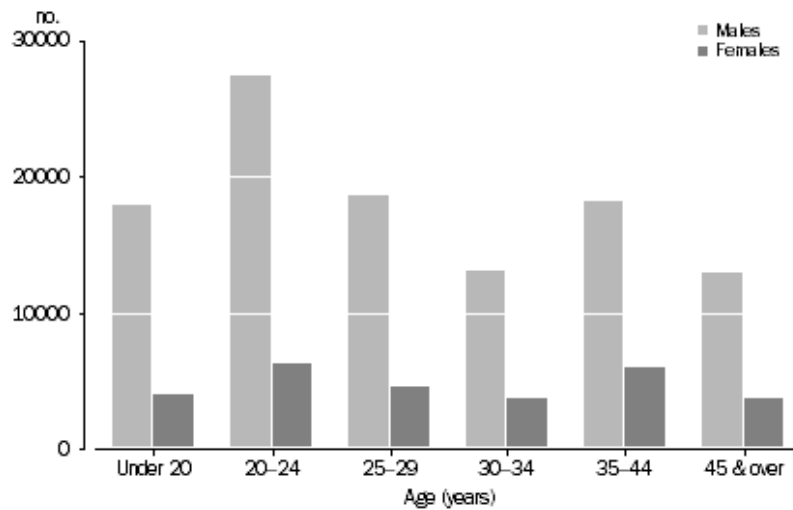
Defendants Finalised

The majority of all criminal cases are finalised in Magistrates' Courts. In Queensland in 2007-08, there were 152,368 defendants finalised, including 666 organisations. A total of 998 defendants were acquitted, 139,169 proven guilty and 8,181 had charges withdrawn by the prosecution, while 4,017 were transferred to other courts. Nearly two thirds of defendants had cases (100,279 or 66%) finalised in under 6 weeks with 82% finalised in under 13 weeks.

Defendants Adjudicated

The largest proportion of the 140,167 defendants adjudicated in Magistrates' Courts were charged with road traffic and motor regulatory offences (35%) followed by public order offences (18%). Males in the younger age groups were more than four times as likely than females to appear before the court. For all age groups, 78% were males and 21% females (0.6% were organisations).

MAGISTRATES' COURTS DEFENDANTS ADJUDICATED, by sex and age, Queensland, 2007-08



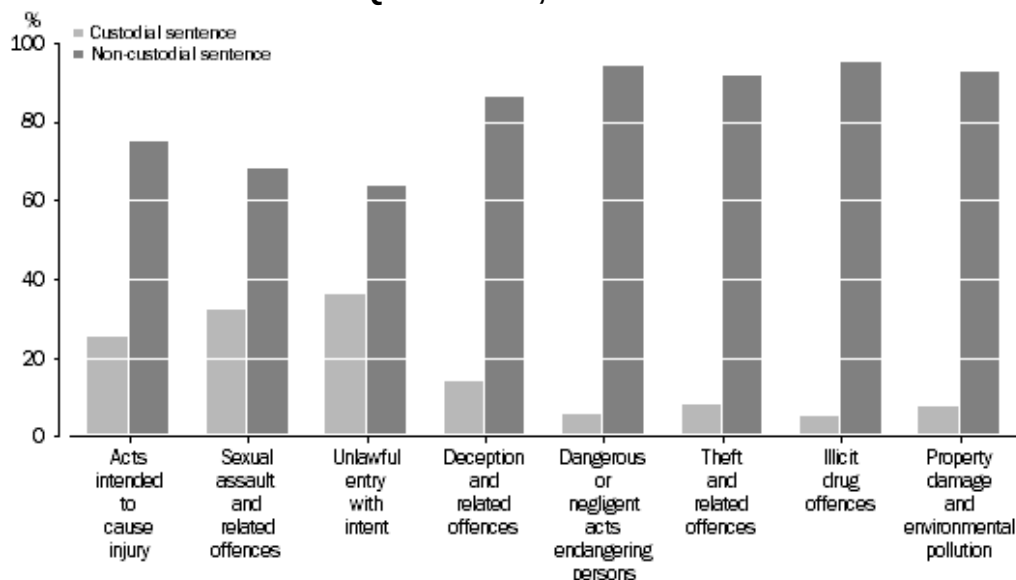
Defendants Proven Guilty

During 2007-08, 139,169 defendants were proven guilty and 81% were given monetary orders. Community supervision/work orders were given to 5.6% of defendants proven guilty while another 5.6% received good behaviour bonds. Prison sentences were given to 3.6% and 2.3% received fully suspended custodial orders.

The majority of defendants adjudicated (99%) were proven guilty. The sexual assault and related offences group was notably different from other principal offence categories in that 85% of defendants adjudicated were proven guilty.

The principal offence groups with the highest proportion of custodial sentences were unlawful entry with intent (36%), sexual assault and related offences (32%) and acts intended to cause injury (25%).

DEFENDANTS PROVEN GUILTY, Type of sentence by selected principal offence , Queensland, 2007-08



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CHILDREN'S COURTS

In all states and territories, children under 10 years of age cannot be charged with a criminal offence. In Queensland, defendants aged 17 years at the time of the offence are considered adults and do not appear in Children's Courts. In all other states and territories the age at which

an offender is considered adult is 18 years.

Snapshot

- There were 7,448 defendants finalised in Children's Courts in Queensland in 2007-08, a decrease of 3.3% from the 7,699 finalised in 2006-07.
- Males accounted for 78% of finalisations
- The majority of defendants finalised (87% or 6,516) were proven guilty, 0.8% were acquitted, 4.6% were transferred to other courts and 7.1% had charges withdrawn.
- Of the 6,572 defendants adjudicated in Children's Courts in Queensland in 2007-08, 99% were proven guilty.
- Of the defendants proven guilty, the majority (94%) received non-custodial orders.

Defendants Finalised

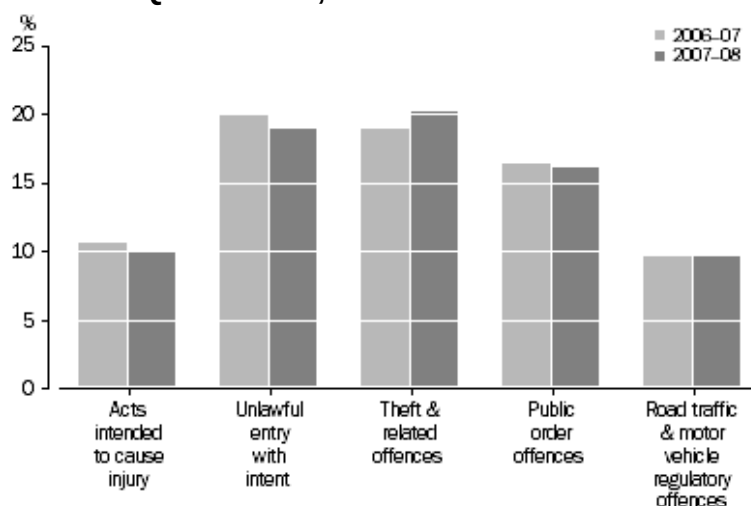
There were 7,448 defendants finalised in 2007-08. The most common charges laid were theft and related offences (1,424), followed by unlawful entry with intent (1,378) and public order offences (1,102).

Charges were withdrawn for 531 defendants, while 56 were acquitted and 342 were transferred to other courts.

Defendants Adjudicated

Of the 6,572 defendants adjudicated in Children's Courts in 2007-08, the largest proportion of defendants were charged with theft and related offences (20%), followed by unlawful entry with intent (19%) and public order offences (16%).

CHILDREN'S COURTS DEFENDANTS ADJUDICATED, Selected principal offence, Queensland, 2006-07 and 2007-08



Sentence Outcomes

Of the 6,516 defendants proven guilty in Children's Courts in 2007-08, 5.7% received a custodial order, 44% were given community supervision/work orders, 14% received good behaviour bonds and 5.6% received a monetary order and 30% received other non-custodial orders (licence disqualification/suspension/amendment, forfeiture of property and nominal penalties).

FURTHER INFORMATION

Further information, including treatment of defendants charged with multiple offences or receiving multiple sentences, the Method of Finalisation Classification, the Australian Standard Offence Classification (1997), the National Offence Index and the Sentence Type Classification and comparable information for other states and territories is available in Criminal Courts, Australia (cat. no. 4513.0).

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